In view of the complexity of setting standards to assist in protection < ground water, the committee recommends the following:

- EPA should proceed expeditiously with promulgating the RMCLs an MCLs that it has recently proposed, and EPA should propose and promuiga RMCLs and MCLs for all other inorganic and organic chemical compoun< commonly found in ground water.
- EPA should also continue to provide technical information to states aboi the organic chemicals in ground water for which it has not promulgated RMCI or MCLs.
- The application of numerical standards to ground water is a matter (state policy, and there is no single approach that would be appropriate on national basis. Ambient ground water standards should be based on the ind vidual state's adopted goals and objectives. These may include protection (beneficial uses other than drinking water, nondegradation, and protection < ecological systems.
- Wisconsin is one state reviewed by the committee that has developed two-tiered set of standards designed to limit degradation of ground wate and require action by polluters. In setting standards the states should conside a multitiered standard-setting approach that can be used to justify nondegrads tion of high-quality ground water and to protect public health.

« In addition, the committee recommends that EPA provide states with central permanent source of technical research and standard-setting criteria However, EPA should have the capability to establish overriding standard when states establish inconsistent standards hindering effective long-term prc vention of ground water degradation.

CONTROL OF CONTAMINATION SOURCES

Management of Hazardous Materials and Waste

Proper hazardous waste disposal capability available to generators wh< cannot handle their waste on site is of critical concern for the protection o ground water quality. It is especially needed to minimize the illegal dump ing that has been found in all parts of the country. Many states either do no have such facilities or have prohibited any establishment of hazardou; waste facilities within their borders.

A comprehensive program to manage hazardous materials and hazardou: waste is essential for protection of ground water. An effective state or loca program should include the following:

- A process for defining hazardous materials and hazardous waste anc identifying sources of generation, storage and handling, transportation, treatment, and disposal.